

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. ____

Introduced by: Yount

A HOUSE RESOLUTION honoring Richard (Dick) L. Pelham for having joined the Army at the age of 16 and then proceeded to serve his country during and following World War II.

Whereas, Dick Pelham joined the Army at the age of 16, a year younger than the legal age of 17, because of a poor family situation;

Whereas, Dick erased his birth year (1930) from his birth certificate, and typed in "1929", and enlisted in the Army on 18 June, 1946;

Whereas, Dick attended basic training at Fort Eustis, Virginia, then was sent to Leghorn, Italy and assigned to foot patrol duty with the military police;

Whereas, following a general discharge from the Army, Dick enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps for four years in 1948;

Whereas, following a broken leg that took ten and one-half



months to heal, Dick still performed his duties in the Marine Corps at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba;

Whereas, Dick was discharged from the Marine Corps in 1952 and immediately joined the U.S. Air Force Reserves;

Whereas, when his enlistment in the Air Force Reserves expired in 1954, Dick enlisted in the Air Force for six years;

Whereas, Dick served the Air Force as a driver and dispatcher in the motor pool and refueled aircraft until his retirement in 1967;

Whereas, Dick worked for Cummins Engine Company, Inc. in Columbus, Indiana and retired in 1987 after nineteen years;

Whereas, Dick continues to live in Columbus with his wife Marjorie. They have one daughter and four grandchildren; and

Whereas, Dick has shown himself to be a true patriot with his many years of service to his country in the military forces; Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives honors Richard (Dick) L. Pelham for his courageous service in the United States Armed Forces in the face of family tribulation. He is a true American patriot and deserves the thanks of all the people in this great nation for protecting their freedom, even though he was not of age.

SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit two copies of this resolution to Representative David Yount.

